## REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 10, 12 and 14-19 are pending in the application upon entry of this amendment. Claims 1, 3-6, 10 and 12 have been amended, and claims 7-9 newly canceled. Claims 14-19 have been added. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

## *I. CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

Claims 1, 4-6, 10, 12 and 14-19 have been amended herein to recite with more particularity the features of the present invention. Previously allowed claims 7-9 have been canceled.[1]

Claims 1, 3, 5, 10 and 12 have been amended to recite with more particularity the configuration of the server client system in accordance with the present invention.

For example, amended claim 1 recites how the server includes a *packet responder* that transmits a response packet to the client on a first port set to a first port number, with the response packet including (i) a second port number and (ii) identification information having a first value or a second value. In addition, claim 1 recites with more particularity how the client includes a *receiver* that receives the response packet from the server and reads the identification information of the received response packet, and a *determiner* that determines whether the identification information read by the receiver has the first value or the second value. Still further, the client includes an *automatic port setter* *setting a second port to the second port number when the identification information has the first value*, and *setting the second port to a predetermined third port number when the identification information has the second*

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[1] During a telephone conversation with the Examiner on March 4, 2008, the Examiner indicated to the undersigned that claims 7-9 and the remaining claims may be directed to separate inventions, and therefore could be subject to restriction in the next Office Action. In anticipation of such restriction and in order to expedite prosecution, applicants cancel claims 7-9 herein without prejudice or disclaimer.

*value*, based on a result of determination by the determiner. Claims 10 and 12 have been amended in similar fashion.

Claim 3 has been amended to recite more specifically how the client includes the *port number storage* for storing a searching port number, a *reader* reading the searching port number from the port number storage, and a *searcher* setting a searching port to the searching port number read by the reader and broadcasting a searching packet to the communication network on the searching port. The client further includes a *receiver* receiving a response packet from the server and reading a newest searching port number from the received response packet, and a *rewriter* rewriting the searching port number stored in the port number storage into the newest searching port number read by the receiver. The server includes a *waiter* waiting for the searching packet from the client on the searching port set to a newest searching port being used at the present and one or more old searching port numbers used in the past, and a *packet responder* transmitting the response packet to the client on the searching port in response to the searching packet broadcasted by the searcher, the response packet including the newest searching port number.

Amended claim 5 recites how the server includes a *selector* selecting a searching port number available among a plurality of searching port numbers, and a *waiter* setting a searching port to the searching port number selected by the selector and waiting for a searching packet from the client on the set searching port. The server further includes a *packet responder* transmitting a response packet to the client on the search port in response to the searching packet broadcasted by a searcher. The client includes a *selector* selecting a searching port number to be used among the plurality of searching port numbers, and the aforementioned *searcher* setting the searching port to the searching port number selected by the selector and broadcasting the searching packet to the communication network on the set searching port. The client further includes a *changer* changing the searching port number to be selected by the selector when receiving no response packet from the server.

Applicants note that the claims, as amended, clearly recite the particular elements and corresponding functions in accordance with the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the art applied by the Examiner teaches neither the combination of elements or corresponding functions as recited in the amended claims. Support for each of the above amendments is found, for example, in the respective embodiments described in the application.

## *II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 3-6, 10 AND 12 UNDER 35 USC §102(e)*

Claims 1, 3-6, 10 and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) based on *Heinonen et al.* Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

### *Claims 1, 10 and 12:*

The Examiner continues to refer to *Heinonen et al.*, and specifically the teachings at column 8, lines 33-58, as teaching the claimed invention. As applicants previously pointed out, *Heinonen et al.* is simply describing conventional TCP/IP protocol. *Heinonen et al.* describes the fact that communications are carried out based on the registered port numbers. Some ports are freely usable by application, and other ports are forbidden to application.

*Heinonen et al.* describes a server client system that includes a server 34 and a client 23 connected to the server 34. However, the server 34 in Heinonen et al. does not include a packet responder that transmits a *response packet* on a first port which includes a *second port number* and *identification information* having a *first value or a second value* as recited in the claims. Nor does the client 23 include a receiver that receives the response packet, and an *automatic port setter* that *sets a second port to the second port number when the identification number has the first value and sets the second port to a predetermined third port number when the identification information as the second value*.

For example, Tables 1 and 2 on page 13 of the present application illustrate distinctions between conventional client server communications (Table 1) and the present invention (Table 2). As is illustrated, the present invention includes additional information in a response packet pertaining to a Property ID (identification information) and a Port number (second port number). *Heinonen et al.,* like the conventional format of Table 1, does not include such second port number and identification information as recited in the claimed invention. *Heinonen et al.* simply does not teach or suggest the recited packet responder, determiner, automatic port setter, etc. as recited in the claims.

Applicants also wish to reemphasize that a plurality of ports that are swappable do not constitute a communicator communicating with the server on a second port when identification information transmitted from the server has the first value, and on a predetermined third port number when the identification information has the second value. The existence of three different port numbers in *Heinonen et al.* and the fact that the different port numbers can be used for different services/applications does not in itself teach communicating with the server on the second port number or predetermined third port number based on a value of identification information transmitted on a first port number as recited in claims 1, 10 and 12.

The invention thus provides advantages such as since the second port number is notified from the server to the client by using the first port number, the second port number does not need to be set in the client. As a result, trouble of setting a port number or the like can be decreased. (See, e.g., Spec., p. 3, lns. 8-11 and 18-24).

### ***Claims 3 and 4:***

Applicants again emphasize that a gateway as taught in *Heinonen et al.* does not constitute a rewriter. The gateway 21 in *Heinonen et al.* merely serves to substitute virtual IP addresses so as to resemble direct communication between the clients and server. Moreover, *Heinonen et al.* fails to teach the recited reader, searcher, packet responder, receiver, and the particular functions associated therewith, as recited in amended claim 3.

### *Claim 5:*

Claim 5, as amended, recites with more particularity how the selector selects a searching port number available from among a plurality of searching port numbers and a waiter sets a search port to the searching port number selected by the selector and waits for a searching packet from the client on the set searching port; and particularly whereby the client includes a searcher setting the searching port to the port selected by the selector and broadcasting the searching packet to the communication network on the set searching port. The server 34 in *Heinonen et al.* does not include such feature as a part of a conventional TCP/IP protocol, specifically where the client includes a changer changing the searching port number to be selected by the selector when no response packet is received from the server.

For at least the above reasons, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

## *III. CONCLUSION*

Accordingly, all claims are believed to be allowable and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE: March 11, 2008

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